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VERMONT SCHOOL LAWS

ACTS OF 1915

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VERMONT SCHOOL LAWS

ACTS OF 1915

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PREFACE.

No. 63, Acts of 1915, granting certain license fees to the trustees of the permanent school fund, is omitted from this compilation. (See foot-note, at page 30).

See also Joint Resolutions Nos. 352 and 353, relating to the school fund of 1825 and the Huntington fund, respectively, not included herein.

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VERMONT SCHOOL LAWS.
ACTS OF 1915.

TITLE 11.
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.
No. 64.

AN ACT TO CODIFY AND AMEND THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LAWS.

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Part I.

Agencies for Administration.

Chapter 1.
state board of education.

Section 1. *Appointment.* The public educational system of the state except as herein otherwise provided shall be under the supervision and management of a state board of education; said state board shall consist of five persons, to be appointed by the governor, one of whom shall be designated by the governor as chairman. Each member of the board shall hold office for five years, except when the board is first created the members shall be appointed for terms ending the thirty-first day of January 1916, 1917, 1918, 1919 and 1920 respectively, and when so appointed the board of education as now constituted shall cease to exist. Thereafter, on or before the fifteenth day of January annually, one member shall be appointed for the full term of five years commencing on the first day of February next following. A vacancy in said board shall be filled by the governor.

Sec. 2. *Disqualification; removal.* The governor may, after notice and hearing, remove a member of said board for incompetency, failure to discharge duties, malfeasance, immorality, or other cause inimical to the welfare of the public schools; and, in case of such removal, he shall appoint a person to fill the unexpired term.

Sec. 3. *Organization; meetings.* Said board shall, at stated times and places, hold at least four regular meetings annually, and shall hold special meetings at such times and places as its chairman may appoint and as its business and the proper per-

formance of its duties in the administration of the school laws may require. The chairman shall call a special meeting upon the written request of any two members. The office of the commissioner of education shall be the office of said board.

Sec. 4. *Compensation.* The members of said board shall receive four dollars per day for actual time spent and their necessary expenses, and the provisions of section 6195 of the Public Statutes and amendments thereof shall apply to said members.

Sec. 5. *Duties.* It shall be the duty of said board;

(a) To employ a trained and skillful executive officer to be called the commissioner of education; and fix his salary.

(b) Through the commissioner of education and his assistants to:

1. Prepare uniform courses of study for all elementary schools;

2. Prepare courses of study to be given in teacher training classes and normal schools;

3. Prepare courses of study to be given in the state-aided departments of high schools;

4. See that the laws for the effective operation of schools are enforced;

5. Supervise the expenditure of all state money expended under the provisions of this act, to inspect all institutions in which or by which such money is used and to prepare a budget for said expenditures;

6. Provide a method whereby the people throughout the state may be informed as to educational conditions and opportunities within the scope of public instruction, and for such other educational publicity as may, in the judgment of the board, contribute to the enlightenment and well-being of the citizens of the state;

7. Provide for all proper educational gatherings, institutes, summer schools, and other like supplementary educational activities and for co-operation with the free public library commission;

8. Locate and establish, without expense to the state, a central normal school or school of education whenever suitable buildings, or adequate funds for the erection of the same, are provided by private gift or bequest;

9. Receive and use money from private persons or from educational or benevolent funds either for individuals, local institutions, or for schools in a supervision district, or for general educational purposes throughout the state, provided in its judgment such use is consistent with the best interests of the state.

Sec. 6. *Regulations.* Said board shall, through the commissioner of education and his assistants, make and promulgate regulations, proper and necessary for the execution of its powers and duties and of the powers and duties of all officers under its supervision or control.

Sec. 7. *Report.* Said board shall present to the general assembly, at the opening of each biennial session, a report of its official acts, for the two school years, ending on the thirtieth day of June next preceding, showing in detail the condition and progress of all educational work, and the expenditure of school moneys and moneys appropriated or given for educational purposes within its supervision or control, with such recommendations for changes and improvements as it deems proper.

Sec. 8. *Commissioner of education.* The chief executive officer of said board shall be the commissioner of education, who shall be appointed by the board for an indefinite term, and be subject to removal only upon a majority vote of the entire board. Said commissioner shall be a person of special training and experience in educational work, and shall be the secretary of the board.

Sec. 9. *Reports.* Said commissioner shall make full reports to said board concerning the public educational system, in such detail and at such times as the board may direct, together with such recommendations as he deems proper for the promotion of the educational interests of the state.

Sec. 10. *Inspectors; clerks, etc.* Said board shall employ such inspectors, clerks, lecturers, and other officers, and may publish and distribute such books and circulars of educational information as it deems proper.

Chapter 2.

TOWN SYSTEM OF SCHOOLS.

Sec. 11. *Town to constitute a district.* A town shall constitute a district for school purposes, and the division of a town into school districts shall no longer exist.

Sec. 12. *Town clerk to act as district clerk, when.* The town clerk, in case the offices of clerk and prudential committee are vacant in a district whose financial affairs are not settled, may warn a meeting of such district as a resident district clerk. Said clerk or one of the selectmen of the town shall attend such meeting and preside over the same until a moderator is elected.

Sec. 13. *Voters, when disqualified.* The voters in a district incorporated by a special act of the general assembly shall not vote in town meetings for the officers of, nor upon any matters pertaining to, the schools of the town.

Sec. 14. *School property.* A town shall take charge of its school houses and property belonging thereto, and all debts outstanding that have accrued for the purchase of land, erection of school houses and repairs thereon shall be audited and paid by the town.

Sec. 15. *Ballots, when used.* In towns having more than four thousand inhabitants, the school directors shall be voted for upon a separate ballot deposited in a separate ballot box.

Sec. 16. *Women may vote and hold office.* Women, twenty-one years of age, shall have the same right as men to vote on matters pertaining to schools and school officers and to hold elective and appointive offices relating to school affairs. This section shall not be construed as requiring the payment of poll taxes by women.

Sec. 17. *Taxes.* A town may raise a tax on its grand list to purchase or hire lands or buildings for school purposes, and to build, repair or furnish school houses that may be needed for such town.

DIRECTORS.

Sec. 18. *Election; term of office.* Each town shall have a board of school directors consisting of three citizens of the town, one of whom shall be elected at each annual meeting of the town and whose term of office shall be for three years, beginning the first day of July following, and until a successor is elected.

Sec. 19. *Vacancies.* The selectmen may temporarily fill a vacancy in the board of school directors until an election is had, and a record thereof shall be made in the town clerk's office.

Sec. 20. *Oath; chairman.* School directors shall be sworn, and shall, on or before the third day of July, annually, elect one of their number chairman, and file a certificate of his election for record in the town clerk's office within five days.

Sec. 21. *Duties.* The board of school directors shall have the care of the school property of the town and the management of its schools, keep the school houses suitably repaired and insured, have authority to designate the schools which shall be attended by the various pupils, subject to the approval of the superintendent, and make regulations not inconsistent with law as to carrying the powers granted them into effect. Said board shall also, unless otherwise provided, subject to the provisions of this act as to competency in number and convenience in instruction, determine the number and location of schools. Said board shall also, subject to the provisions of this act, employ teachers and fix their compensation. Said board shall examine claims against the town for school expenses, and draw orders for such as shall be allowed by them, payable to the party entitled thereto. Such orders shall state definitely the purpose for which they are drawn.

Sec. 22. *Liability.* If a board of school directors cause or allow a payment, not authorized by law to be made, each member thereof so causing or allowing such payment shall be liable to the town for the money so paid, to be recovered in an action on this statute.

Sec. 23. *Appropriations.* Said board shall annually recommend in writing to the town the amount of money necessary to be appropriated for the use of schools.

Sec. 24. *Statement of expenditures.* Said board shall annually, on or before the fifth day of July, prepare its report to the town containing, on forms prescribed and furnished by the state board of education, a classified statement under oath of the actual cash expenditures of the town for the preceding school year for school purposes. Said report shall be prepared in duplicate and shall be returned to the town clerk and to the state board of education respectively; and no town shall be entitled to receive any portion of school moneys distributed by the state unless such returns are made.

Sec. 25. *Accounts.* On or before the tenth day of February, annually, the school board of the town shall prepare an itemized and classified statement of its expenditures for the twelve months ending on the last day of January preceding a statement of the amount of moneys on hand, a written statement of the conditions and needs of the schools, and shall submit to the town auditors these statements, together with a recommendation of the amounts of money needed for the following school year and a copy of the certificate given it by said auditors, and said auditors shall include such statements, recommendations, and a copy of certificate in their report to the town; and no other audit or report shall be required. No school director shall receive compensation for his services, or be eligible to hold said office for the year ensuing, if he neglects or refuses to have his own account as school director or the account of said board audited as herein provided.

Sec. 26. *Compensation.* The compensation of school directors, which shall be paid by orders drawn by said board, shall be such sum as the town votes at the annual town meeting in payment for services rendered in the performance of their duties; and their accounts shall be audited at the time of auditing the school account of said board.

CLERK.

Sec. 27. *Appointment; compensation.* The board of school directors shall appoint a clerk, who shall serve until his successor is appointed and shall be paid upon the order of said board.

Sec. 28. *Directors to act as, when.* In case of the absence, disability or neglect of the clerk, his duties shall be performed by the board of school directors.

Sec. 29. *Records and returns.* Said clerk shall keep a permanent record of the proceedings of said board, and shall make such returns on such prescribed forms as the state board of education may require.

Sec. 30. *List of children of school age.* Said clerk shall annually, between August first and August fifteenth, prepare, on forms prescribed by the state board of education, an accurate list containing the name and date of birth of each child of school age residing in the town, the name of the parent or other person

having control of such child, and such other facts as the state board of education may prescribe. Said clerk shall keep such list on file and make such report therefrom as the state board of education may require. Upon presentation of the certificate of the superintendent that said list has been prepared as required by this section, said clerk shall be paid by the town, for preparing such list, four cents for each person of school age.

Sec. 31. *Principals to make.* The trustees of incorporated schools shall cause their principals to return to the commissioner of education, on or before the tenth day of July, annually, answers to the statistical inquiries addressed to them by said commissioner.

Sec. 32. *False information; penalty.* If a person having control of a child between the ages of six and eighteen years refuses to give the clerk information as to the age of such child, or falsely states the same, he shall be fined not more than twenty dollars.

Sec. 33. *Designation of school.* Immediately upon completing such list, said clerk shall furnish a list, with names in alphabetical order and the date of birth of each child, to the board of school directors. Before the opening day of each session, said board shall, subject to the approval of the superintendent, designate the school each child shall attend, and shall furnish the superintendent a list of the children of school age in town, with names in alphabetical order, the date of birth, and the school designated for each child. Said board shall also, at the same time, furnish the teacher of the school so designated a list of the children required to attend such school during the ensuing session together with the date of birth of each child; and said teacher shall inscribe on the sheet in the register of such school the names and dates of birth so furnished.

Chapter 3.

SUPERVISION.

Sec. 34. *Appointment of superintendents.* The state board of education shall, as soon as practicable appoint a sufficient number of superintendents who shall be trained educators to insure a reasonable supervision of all public schools within the state; they shall designate the schools over which each superintendent shall have supervision and shall make regulations governing the powers and duties of such superintendents.

Sec. 35. *Tenure.* The term of office of superintendents shall be indefinite; and the state board of education shall provide regulations with a view to the stability of the tenure of superintendents, and relating to their removal, transfer and promotion, and to the filling of vacancies.

Sec. 36. *Reports.* A superintendent shall annually on or before the fifth day of July submit to the board of school directors

of each town a report of his services within the town, with information as to the condition and needs of the schools therein under his charge; and such report may be printed and distributed by said board. Said superintendent shall report at least once a week to the commissioner of education, on blanks to be furnished by said commissioner, stating what schools he has visited during the week, the number of hours spent in each, the quality and kind of work being done by the teachers in such schools, and such other facts as the commissioner may require.

Sec. 37. *Salaries.* The salaries of superintendents shall be fixed by the state board of education and shall be paid by the state, except that a town or incorporated district having twenty-five or more legal schools, may appoint its own superintendent, at a salary of not less than fifteen hundred dollars, the state shall pay to such town or incorporated district twelve hundred dollars and an additional sum equal to one-half of the excess of salary so paid, provided that the state shall in no case pay to such a town or incorporated district toward the salary of its superintendent more than two thousand dollars.

(a) The provisions of this chapter so far as they relate to the appointment and tenure of office of superintendents of schools shall not apply to towns or incorporated districts having twenty-five or more legal schools, except as such towns or districts by a majority of their school directors vote otherwise.

(b) Superintendents of schools other than those appointed by the state board of education shall, in the absence of special legislation relating thereto, be elected by the school directors of the several towns at such time and in such manner as the by-laws of such school directors provide; and the salaries of such superintendents and their tenure of office shall be fixed by the school commissioners and the salaries paid by the town except as heretofore provided.

Sec. 38. *Regional or state meetings.* The state board of education shall provide for regional or state meetings of superintendents; and superintendents shall attend such meetings and shall be allowed their actual necessary expenses.

STATE SUPERVISORS.

Sec. 39. *Employment; compensation.* The commissioner of education shall, subject to the approval of the state board of education, employ such number of trained and capable state supervisors as said board may authorize, whose compensation shall be fixed by said board and paid by the state.

Sec. 40. *Duties of supervisors.* Said supervisors shall act under the direction of the commissioner of education, and in sections of the state designated by him; but their work shall not be restricted to any particular section, and their field of oversight shall be changed frequently. Said supervisors shall, co-operating with the superintendent and supplementing his work, spend their

time in the schools, assisting the teachers and demonstrating proper methods of instruction; and shall perform such other duties as the commissioner, subject to the approval of the state board of education, may prescribe.

Part II.

Public Schools.

Chapter 1.

classification and courses generally.

Sec. 41. *Restoration of public schools in rural communities.* Every town shall have a competent number of public schools and so located as to afford convenient instruction to youth. When six or more residents of any community, having eight or more pupils, petition the selectmen of the town or the aldermen of a city for the establishment of a rural school in said community, the selectmen or aldermen shall, within ten days after the receipt of such petition, call a special town meeting, duly warned, and the question of establishing such rural school shall be decided by a majority of the voters at said town meeting. The public schools, other than secondary schools, are hereby divided into the following classes:

1. Kindergartens, which shall mean schools into which children under six years of age may be received, and which may be established by the board of school directors at the expense of the town;

2. Elementary schools, which shall mean schools having an eight or nine year course or courses of study, adapted to the needs of pupils between the ages of six and sixteen years.

Sec. 42. *Courses.* The state board of education shall, as soon as practicable but not later than July 1, 1916, prepare and promulgate uniform courses of study, including instruction in good behavior and citizenship, for the elementary schools, which shall be followed until superseded by courses thereafter promulgated by said board.

Sec. 43. *Elementary schools; numbers, quality and locations.* Elementary schools shall be competent in number, and of such quality and so located as to furnish adequate, reasonable and convenient opportunity for pupils. Said board of school directors may re-locate or consolidate the schools within their respective towns as the interest of convenience and efficiency may require, except as herein otherwise provided. In the exercise of the powers given in this section, strict observance of the constitutional requirements as to competency in number and location shall be observed.

Sec. 44. *Subjects.* The courses prescribed for pupils in elementary schools shall include instruction in good behavior, reading, writing, spelling, English grammar, geography, arith-

metic, free-hand drawing, citizenship, the history and constitution of the United States, and elementary physiology and hygiene, with special reference to the effect of alcoholic drinks and narcotics on the human system, and shall also include special instruction in the geography, history, constitution and principles of the government of Vermont, and such other subjects including manual training and domestic science as in the judgment of the state board of education are appropriate to the needs of the children of this state.

Chapter 2.

SCHOOL YEAR AND SCHOOL TERM.

Sec. 45. *School year, term, etc.* The school year shall commence on the first day of July and end on the last day of June following. In public schools, not less than thirty-four weeks shall constitute a school year. The school directors shall have power to make regulations dividing the school year into terms by way of weeks and fixing the number of hours that shall constitute a day session and the number of days that shall constitute a school week.

Sec. 46. *School term.* Each elementary school shall be maintained for at least thirty-four weeks in a school year. If any school shall be closed by reason of the prevalance of any contagious disease or by the school directors with the approval of the superintendent, the time during which such school is closed shall be counted in determining whether such school has been maintained for the requisite number of weeks during the school year.

Chapter 3.

School Age, Attendance and Discipline.

LEGAL PUPILS.

Sec. 47. *Definition.* The words "legal pupils" shall include persons between the ages of six and eighteen years, but no person who has become eighteen years of age shall be deprived of public school advantages on account of age. No child under six years of age shall be received into any public school, except a kindergarten at the beginning of the fall term unless such child shall become six years of age on or before the first day of the next January; and no child between the ages of six and eight years shall be received into a public school after the beginning of the fall term without the consent of the superintendent.

Sec. 48. *Residence.* For the purposes of this act the residence of a child shall follow the residence of the parent or guardian, except that in special cases the school directors may exercise discretionary power in the matter of payment of tuition.

Sec. 49. *Same.* The school directors shall determine the place of residence of a pupil, but, in case of a dispute as to the same, an appeal shall be taken to the commissioner of education whose decision shall be final.

ATTENDANCE.

Sec. 50. *Requirements.* A person having the control of a child between the ages of eight and sixteen years shall, unless such child is mentally or physically unable so to attend, or is otherwise being furnished with the same education, or has completed the elementary school course, or is legally excused from attending school, cause such child to attend a public school continuously for the full number of days for which said school is held; and, if the school in which said child is a pupil is held for more than one hundred seventy days during such school year, shall cause such child to continue in school, unless excused in writing by the superintendent. In computing said one hundred seventy days, holidays and other days allowed teachers by law shall be included.

Sec. 51. *Same.* If a person having control of a child who has become sixteen years of age allows such child to be enrolled as a pupil in a public school, he shall cause such child to attend such school regularly throughout the term in which he is so enrolled, unless he is mentally or physically unable to continue, or is excused in writing by the superintendent; and in case of such enrollment, such person, and the teacher, child and superintendent shall be under the laws and subject to the penalties relating to the attendance of children between the ages of eight and sixteen years.

Sec. 52. *Excused when.* If a child has completed the eight or nine year elementary course or has reached the age of fifteen years and has completed the first six years work in said elementary school, he may be excused by the superintendent from further attendance if his services are needed for the support of those dependent upon him, or for any other sufficient reason.

Sec. 53. *Non-attendance, superintendent to be notified.* In case a child between the ages of eight and sixteen years, who is not excused or exempted by law from attending school, fails to enter such school at the beginning of the term, or, being enrolled, fails to attend the same, or in case a child who has become sixteen years of age becomes enrolled in a public school and fails to attend, the teacher shall forthwith notify the superintendent, and the truant officer of the town, unless said teacher is satisfied upon information that the child is absent on account of sickness.

DUTIES OF SUPERINTENDENT.

Sec. 54. *Non-attendance of pupils.* Said truant officer shall, upon receiving such notice, forthwith inquire into the cause of the child's non-attendance; and, if he finds that the child is absent without cause, he shall give written notice to the person having control of the child that the child is absent from school without cause, and also notify such person to cause the child to attend school regularly thereafter. After receiving such notice,

if the person having control of the child fails, without legal excuse, to cause the child to attend regularly, the truant officer shall forthwith enter a complaint to the town grand juror of the town in which said person resides, or to the state's attorney of the county, who shall prosecute said person.

Sec. 55. *Same.* A superintendent may, and the truant officer shall stop a child between the ages of eight and sixteen years, or a child who has become sixteen years of age and has become enrolled in a public school, not excused or exempted by law from attending school, wherever found during school hours, and take him to the school which he should attend.

Sec. 56. *Medical examination.* If a person having control of a child represents to the superintendent that the child is mentally or physically unable to attend school, and the superintendent has reason to believe that the representation is untrue, he shall investigate and, if upon such investigation he deems it advisable, shall request the health officer of the town or a competent physician to examine the child and report his mental or physical condition to said superintendent; and the expense of such examination shall be paid from the school funds of the town.

Sec. 57. *Complaints.* If a superintendent or truant officer has reason to believe that a person having control of a child has violated the provisions of this chapter, he shall forthwith enter a complaint to the grand juror of the town in which said person resides, or to the state's attorney of the county, and furnish him the evidence upon which such complaint is based, and said grand juror or said state's attorney shall prosecute said person; and in such prosecution the complaint, indictment or information shall be deemed sufficient if it states that the respondent, (naming him) having the control of a child of school age, (naming him) neglects to send said child to school as required by law.

Sec. 58. A person acting as truant officer shall be reimbursed for all expense incurred in the performance of his duties and shall receive two dollars per day for time actually spent unless otherwise provided, the same to be paid by orders drawn by the school board.

Sec. 59. *Overseer of poor notified.* If a person having the control of a child of school age notifies the superintendent that he is unable to provide the child with suitable clothing for school attendance, or if, upon inquiry into the child's non-attendance, the superintendent is satisfied that he is not properly clothed and that said person is unable to provide suitable clothing for him, he shall notify the overseer of the poor, who shall at once provide necessary clothing for the child.

Sec. 60. *Instruction.* The board of school directors may receive into the schools under its charge non-resident pupils, under such terms and restrictions as it deems best; and money received for the instruction of such pupils shall be paid into the school fund of the town.

Sec. 61. *Same.* A child residing in the vicinity of a school in an adjoining town, who can be better accommodated in such school, may demand the privileges of the same. The tuition shall be paid from the school money of the town in which said pupil is a resident; provided, however, if the parent of said child is a taxpayer in such adjoining town each town shall pay such portion of the tuition as the tax paid by said parent in each town bears to the total tax paid by said parent in both towns. The tuition paid shall not be greater than the cost per pupil per week for the maintenance of such school, provided that the same does not exceed one dollar per week.

Sec. 62. *Authority over non-resident pupils.* A superintendent of a school in which a non-resident pupil is in attendance upon school shall have the same authority and jurisdiction over such non-resident pupil and the person having control of such pupil as in the case of resident pupils.

PENALTIES.

Sec. 63. *Truancy.* A child enrolled in a public school who is guilty of wilful, continued and incorrigible truancy, or moral delinquency, may be sentenced to the Vermont industrial school or other institution for a period of not less than thirty-six weeks.

Sec. 64. *Neglect of official duty.* A superintendent, truant officer or an overseer of the poor, who refuses or neglects to carry out the provisions of this chapter, shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars.

Sec. 65. *Generally; jurisdiction.* A person who violates a provision of this chapter shall, unless otherwise provided, be fined not more than twenty-five dollars nor less than five dollars, which shall be paid to the state. Unless otherwise provided, justices of the peace and municipal courts shall have concurrent jurisdiction with the county court of offenses arising under this chapter.

SCHOOL DISCIPLINE.

Sec. 66. *Punishment of pupils.* A superintendent or a school director, on request of and in the presence of the teacher of a school, or the teacher or the principal of a school, may resort to any reasonable form of punishment, including corporal punishment, and to any reasonable degree, for the purpose of securing obedience on the part of a child enrolled as a pupil in such school, or for his correction, and for the purpose of securing or maintaining order in and control of the school.

Sec. 67. *Dismissal of pupils.* A superintendent may, with the consent of a majority of the school directors after consulting with the local health officer, dismiss from school any pupil whose personal habits, infirmities or influence are such as to make the presence of such pupil harmful to the welfare of the school.

Sec. 68. *Secret societies.* No registered pupil, attending any public school which is wholly or partly maintained by public funds, shall join, or solicit any other pupil of such school to join, any secret fraternity, club or society, whose membership is formed in whole or in part from the pupils attending such school, or take part in the organization, formation or continuation of any such fraternity, club or society, except such as are sanctioned by the commissioner of education and the superintendent, after an impartial investigation of the nature of such organization; and in the course of such investigation, the members of any such existing or proposed organization shall be given full opportunity to be heard, either in person or by deputy. The provisions of this section shall not apply to membership in temperance or religious societies or associations of any kind, nor to societies or any form of associations which have been or may be established for the moral advancement of youth.

Sec. 69. *Suspension or dismissal.* The superintendent, pursuant to regulations made by the state board of education, shall have power to suspend or dismiss any pupil, or to prevent him from graduating or participating in school honors, if, upon investigation had after notice to said pupil, said superintendent finds him guilty of violating a provision of the preceding section.

Sec. 70. Any child who has satisfactorily completed the work of the elementary schools shall be entitled to a certificate from the superintendent, which certificate shall admit such child to enter and become enrolled as a student in the first year of any high school or academy within this state approved by the board of education.

Chapter 4.

TRANSPORTATION AND BOARD.

Sec. 71. *School directors' duties; expense.* The school directors, subject to the approval of the superintendent, shall have charge of and regulate the transportation and board of pupils in the schools under their charge and contracts therefor shall be made by them.

Sec. 72. *Transportation.* Every person of school age, residing at a distance of one and one-half miles from an elementary school shall be furnished with transportation, whenever such transportation is feasible; and, if such transportation is not feasible, such person shall be furnished with board whenever necessary to afford him an opportunity to attend school, and such board shall be paid by the state, not to exceed one dollar per week.

Sec. 73. *Same.* The charges for such transportation shall be borne wholly by the state in all towns whose grand list does not exceed five thousand dollars. In towns having a grand list in excess of five thousand dollars exclusive of incorporated

districts the state and town shall bear the expense of transportation in the ratio five thousand bears to the grand list of such town, provided, however, that no town shall receive an average of more than twenty dollars a year for each pupil transported under the provisions of this section.

Sec. 74. *Same.* School directors may cause transportation to be furnished to a child living less than one and one-half miles distant from an elementary school if the exigencies of the case require, but in all such cases the expenses thereof shall be borne by the town.

Sec. 75. *Disagreement.* In case of dissatisfaction on the part of any person interested and upon his complaint, or upon the complaint of any taxpayer, to the school directors, as to the transportation, residence or board of any pupil, or of the character of any person employed to transport pupils, the complaint shall be heard by said school directors and from their decision an appeal may be taken to the commissioner of education, whose decision thereon shall be final.

Sec. 76. *Report.* The superintendent shall include, in his annual report to the board of school directors of each town, a report as to the pupils of said town transported or boarded under this act, and the expense thereof, and shall annually, at a time to be fixed by the state board of education, furnish to said last-named board a report of all pupils transported or boarded under this act, and the expense thereof.

Chapter 5.

Registers and Returns.

form and use.

Sec. 77. *Commissioner of education to prescribe forms.* The commissioner of education shall, with the approval of the state board of education, prescribe blank forms for a school register for keeping a record of the daily attendance of pupils and containing printed forms of teachers' contracts and interrogatories for procuring the statistical information required to be given by teachers and school officers, and for procuring such other information as he deems desirable.

Sec. 78. *Supplying schools.* Said commissioner shall annually, in the month of June, transmit to each superintendent a sufficient number of such registers to supply the needs of the schools over which he has supervision; and within ten days before the opening of each term of school, the superintendent shall deliver the assigned register to each teacher in the schools under his charge.

Sec. 79. *Teachers to procure and keep.* A teacher receiving a register from the superintendent shall keep therein, in the prescribed form, a record of the daily attendance of each pupil, enter therein correct answers to the interrogatories addressed

to the teachers and deliver such register to the superintendent at the end of each term.

Sec. 80. *Superintendent to examine.* Said superintendent shall examine the register, and, if it is filled out and properly certified by the teacher, he shall give written notice thereof to the chairman of the board of school directors. No order shall be drawn for the payment of salary of such teacher for the month then next preceding the close of the term, until such notice is received.

Sec. 81. *Completion and filing.* Said superintendent shall enter therein correct answers to the interrogatories to be answered by him, the name of the teacher of the school during the term for which such register was kept, the date and character of such teacher's certificate, and certify to the correctness of such entries and said superintendent shall file the register so completed in the office of the town clerk on or before the third day of July.

RETURNS.

Sec. 82. *Town clerk to make.* The town clerk shall annually, on or before the tenth day of July, and at such other times as the commissioner of education directs, make out and return to him such statistics as he requires, upon blanks furnished by said commissioner, who shall receipt therefor.

FEES.

Sec. 83. *Allowed to town clerk.* For services rendered as required by this chapter, a town clerk shall receive from the town treasurer three cents for each legal pupil in the town; but such compensation shall not be more than twenty dollars nor less than three dollars.

Chapter 6.

FIRE DRILLS.

Sec. 84. *Pupils to be drilled, when.* The principal or person in charge of a public or private school or educational institution, other than a university or college, shall drill such pupils so that they may be able to leave the school building in the shortest possible time and without panic or confusion. Such drills shall be held at least once in each month, when such school or educational institution is in session.

Sec. 85. *Penalty for neglect.* A principal or person in charge of such school or institution who wilfully neglects to comply with the provisions of the preceding section shall be fined not more than twenty dollars.

Sec. 86. *This chapter to be published.* This chapter shall be printed in every register supplied for use in the public schools and in such manuals or hand-books as may be prepared for the guidance of teachers in all schools.

Chapter 7.

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.

Sec. 87. *Special instruction.* The board of school directors may provide for instruction in vocal music, physical culture and drawing by a regular teacher or teachers, or by a teacher or teachers to be employed for such purpose.

Sec. 88. *Commemorative exercises.* The last half day's session of the public schools before Memorial Day shall be devoted to exercises commemorative of the history of the nation during the war of the rebellion and to patriotic instruction in the principles of liberty and the equal rights of man.

Sec. 89. *Evening schools.* A town may maintain one or more evening schools for persons above compulsory school age and such school shall be rated as a public school.

Sec. 90. *Provisions respecting age; how construed.* Whenever in this act the word "between" is used respecting the specified age of a child, it shall be construed to mean a period of time commencing on the birthday of such child when he becomes of the age so first specified and ending on the day next preceding the birthday of such child when he becomes of the age so last specified.

Part III.

Teachers.

Chapter 1.

EXAMINATION AND CERTIFICATION.

Sec. 91. *Powers of state board of education.* The state board of education shall provide for the examination and certification of teachers, appoint the times and places of examination, designate the examiners, fix the standard required for certification, classify the grades of certificates to be granted, prepare and procure the printing of questions for such examinations and blanks for teachers' certificates, and make all necessary regulations for such examination and certification, and for the revocation of certificates.

Sec. 92. *Validity of previous certificates.* Certificates or permits to teach, issued under the laws in force at the time this act becomes effective, shall be valid for the period and under the conditions provided by such laws unless sooner revoked by the state board of education.

Sec. 93. *Certificates from other states.* The state board of education shall make regulations relating to the recognition of teachers' certificates, diplomas and educational credentials granted in any other state, provided such other state shall, by substantially reciprocal regulations or laws, recognize such certificates, diplomas and educational credentials issued in this state.

Sec. 94. *Clerical assistance; expenses.* The state board of education may employ such clerical assistance as may be necessary for the purpose of carrying out its regulations respecting the examination and certification of teachers; and all expenses connected with such examination and certification shall be paid by the state.

Sec. 95. *Certificate required; age limit.* No person shall teach in a public school without having a certificate or permit then in force; and a contract for teaching shall be void, if the teacher does not obtain such certificate or permit before opening school. No certificate or permit shall be issued to a person under seventeen years of age.

Chapter 2.

TEACHER TRAINING IN HIGH SCHOOLS.

Sec. 96. *Selected Schools.* The state board of education shall establish teacher-training courses in such high schools, seminaries or academies within the state, as it may select for the purpose of training teachers for the elementary schools of the state.

Sec. 97. *Revocation; additional schools.* The state board of education may revoke its designation of any high school or academy as an institution wherein a teacher-training course shall be maintained, and may select additional ones for such purpose, as the interests of efficiency in teacher-training may require.

Sec. 98. *Courses.* Said board shall establish a course or courses for the training of teachers in each high school or academy selected by it, shall prepare courses of study to be given, and shall designate the teachers to be employed to give the instruction required.

Sec. 99. *Rules.* Said board shall make rules governing admission to such teacher-training courses, shall prescribe standards requisite for graduation therefrom, and shall provide as to the effect to be given to such graduation as a basis for certificates to teach in the public schools.

Sec. 100. *Non-residents.* Persons residing in towns which do not contain a high school, seminary or academy wherein a teacher-training course is maintained, shall, if qualified for admission, be furnished the desired instruction in such selected institutions without payment of tuition; and the state board of education shall make regulations relating to the designation of the particular institutions which such persons shall attend.

Sec. 101. *Teachers' salaries.* The salaries of the teachers employed in teacher-training courses shall be fixed by the state board of education, and shall be paid by the state.

Sec. 102. *Schools selected, etc., when.* The state board of education shall, on or before the first day of July, 1915, select the

high schools, seminaries and academies wherein teacher-training courses shall be established, and make and promulgate regulations relating thereto; and thereupon pre-existing teacher-training courses shall be discontinued as of July 1, 1915.

Chapter 3.

SALARIES, TENURE, ETC.

Sec. 103. *Directors' duties.* The board of school directors shall employ teachers, and shall fix the amount of their compensation, but in no case shall the compensation be less than eight dollars per week.

Sec. 104. *State aid for teachers.* There shall be paid to the teachers employed in the rural schools, the following sums, which shall be in addition to the amount paid by the several towns:

(a) Four dollars per week for each teacher who holds a life certificate or who has had two years of professional training following graduation from a first class high school.

(b) Three dollars per week for each teacher who has taught at least eighty weeks, and holds a first grade certificate, or who has had two years of professional training preceded by two years work in an approved high school, or who has had one year of professional training following graduation from a first class high school.

(c) Two dollars per week for each teacher who has had one year of professional training preceded by three years work in an approved high school.

Provided that after July first, 1916, the state board of education may, in lieu of the classification herein provided, make such classification of the rural teachers as said board may deem proper.

Sec. 105. *Rural school defined.* The term "rural school," for the purposes of the foregoing section, shall mean any school having not more than two teachers, and offering instruction in not less than six of the eight or nine years of the courses prescribed for elementary schools.

Sec. 106. *Contracts, teacher.* No contract between school directors and a teacher shall be valid unless the same be in writing, or partly written and partly printed, in triplicate, signed by the chairman of the board of school directors and by the teacher. One copy thereof shall be filed with the board of school directors, one copy with the teacher and one copy with the superintendent. Such contract shall specify the date when such teacher shall begin service, the kind and grade of certificate held by said teacher and the date when said certificate will expire, the salary and such other matter as may be necessary to a full and complete understanding of the same.

Sec. 107. *Same.* Any teacher, under contract to teach in a public school, who, without just cause, fails to complete the term for which said teacher contracted to teach, shall be disqualified to teach in any public school of this state for the remainder of the school year.

Sec. 108. *Payment of salaries.* The board of school directors shall make regulations as to the time and manner of the payment of teachers' salaries, including the amount to be paid by the state; and each teacher shall be entitled to receive monthly payment of salary if such payment is demanded, and no contract specifying otherwise shall be of force.

Sec. 109. *Reimbursement of towns.* On or before the first day of September annually, the board of school directors of each town shall furnish the commissioner of education a certified statement of the various amounts their town is entitled to receive under the provisions of this act, and said commissioner of education, after verifying such statements, shall certify the same to the auditor of accounts, who shall draw an order for the amounts due each town and the state treasurer shall forthwith pay to the treasurer of each town the several amounts respectively due such town, and the treasurer of each town shall credit to the school funds of his town all moneys so received.

Chapter 4.

TIME ALLOWED TEACHERS.

Sec. 110. *Educational meetings.* The time, not exceeding five days during any one year, actually spent by a teacher in attendance upon a meeting of the state teachers' association, or upon educational meetings held by the commissioner of education or superintendent, and the time actually spent by a teacher in visiting schools when so directed by the superintendent, shall, in determining the compensation of the teacher and the number of weeks of school, be counted the same as if spent in teaching.

Sec. 111. *Holidays.* A teacher in the public schools shall not be required to teach on a legal holiday; and the superintendent may give written permission to a teacher to dismiss school for not more than two days whenever such dismissal seems to him necessary or proper. In determining the number of weeks taught by said teacher, no deduction shall be made from time or compensation because of absence on such days.

Chapter 5.

PENSIONS AND RETIREMENT FUND.

PENSIONS.

Sec. 112. *Town may vote.* On recommendation of its board of school directors, a town may, at its annual meeting or at a special meeting called for that purpose, vote to pension a

teacher who has taught in the public schools for at least thirty years; and such pension shall be paid from funds raised by the town for school purposes.

Sec. 113. *Limit.* No pension voted by a town under the preceding section shall exceed one-half of the average annual salary received by the teacher during his then last five years of service.

Sec. 114. *Establishment.* A permanent fund is hereby established, to be known as the Vermont State Teachers' Retirement Fund and hereinafter designed as the retirement fund, to be held and administered for the benefit of the retired teachers of the public schools, in accordance with the provisions of this act. Said retirement fund shall consist of:

(a) All contributions made by teachers, as hereinafter provided;

(b) All contributions made by the Vermont Teachers' Retirement Fund Association, hereinafter referred to;

(c) All donations, legacies, gifts and bequests, which shall be made to such fund, and all moneys which shall be obtained from other sources for the increase of said retirement fund;

(d) Appropriations made by the general assembly from time to time to carry into effect the purposes of said retirement fund, which appropriations when made shall be added thereto and administered in the same manner as other moneys belonging to said retirement fund;

(e) The income or interest derived from the investment of the moneys comprising said retirement fund.

Sec. 115. *Management.* Said retirement fund shall be under the management and control of a board to be known as the Vermont State Teachers' Retirement Fund Board, and hereinafter designated as the retirement fund board, which shall consist of the governor, the commissioner of education, the state treasurer and the president of the Vermont Teachers' Retirement Fund Association, *ex officio* and one member of said association to be elected by it biennially. The president of said association and the member to be elected by it, as hereinbefore provided, shall hold office as members of said retirement fund board for the term of two years from and including the first day of February in the year following their election. Said association shall fill vacancies occurring in said board by reason of the death, resignation or inability to serve of the president of said association as above provided. The members of said board shall serve without compensation, but shall be entitled to their actual expenses necessarily incurred in the discharge of their official duties.

Sec. 116. *Same.* Said retirement fund board is hereby authorized to receive and administer, as part of said retirement fund, such moneys as may be turned over to it by said association. A separate account of such moneys shall be kept, as well

as of all moneys contributed by teachers as hereinafter provided. Said board shall certify to the auditor of accounts, annually, in the month of January, the total amount of contributions to said fund made by said association during the last preceding period of twelve months, as shown by the books of said board.

Sec. 117. *State appropriation.* The auditor of accounts is hereby directed to draw an order annually in the month of January, for such sum, not exceeding ten thousand dollars in any one year, as the treasurer of said retirement fund board shall certify to have been the sum contributed by said association to said retirement fund during the preceding year, as provided in the preceding section.

Sec. 118. *Treasurer.* The state treasurer shall be *ex officio* treasurer of said board and custodian of said retirement fund, and said fund shall be invested only in those securities in which the trustees of a savings bank may by law invest the moneys deposited therein.

Sec. 119. *Disbursements.* The income of said retirement fund shall be disbursed to the beneficiaries thereof, hereinafter specified, under such regulations as shall be prescribed by said retirement fund board; and said board shall make a detailed biennial report to the general assembly of its administration of said fund and the disbursement of the income thereof.

Sec. 120. *Classification.* Class 1. A teacher who has taught in the public schools of this state not less than twenty-five school years, shall, upon his retirement from actual service as such teacher, be entitled to receive from the income of said retirement fund, except as hereinafter provided, a life annuity equal to one-half the amount of the average salary received by such teacher during the last five years of said term of service; but such sum shall not exceed five hundred dollars.

Class 2. A teacher who has taught in public schools thirty school years, the last twenty years of which shall have been spent in teaching in the public schools of this state, shall receive from the income of said retirement fund, except as hereinafter provided, the same annuity as provided for teachers in class one.

Class 3. A teacher who has taught in the public schools of this state and who, by reason of age or infirmities, has been incapacitated for further service therein, shall be entitled to such aid from the income of said retirement fund, not exceeding the annuity to which teachers in classes one and two are entitled as hereinbefore provided, as shall be determined by said retirement fund board.

Sec. 121. *Teachers defined.* In construing the preceding section, principals of public schools and superintendents shall be deemed to be teachers.

Sec. 122. *Proof required.* To entitle a teacher to the benefits of this act he shall present to said board satisfactory proof:

(a) That he comes within the provisions of the second preceding section, with respect to length of service, or age, or infirmities, and is therefore entitled to be placed upon the teachers' retired list;

(b) Of the largest salary received by him for service as teacher in the public schools during the period thereof by reason of which he claims the benefits of said fund;

(c) That he has permanently retired from paid service in connection with the public schools of this state.

(d) That he has contributed to said retirement fund a sum equal to forty per cent of the annuity to which he claims to be entitled.

Sec. 123. *Retirement.* No teacher entitled to the benefits of this act on reaching the age of sixty-five years shall thereafter receive such benefits unless he retires from paid service as a teacher on reaching said age, or receives a permit from the state board of education to continue as a teacher. No teacher shall receive any benefits under this act while engaged in teaching.

Sec. 124. *Payment of annuities and benefits.* Prior to the time when the income from said retirement fund shall become adequate to pay all annuities and benefits as hereinbefore provided, said retirement fund board is hereby authorized to pay annuities and benefits according to a fair proportion which shall be determined by the amount of income from said retirement fund and by the number of teachers on the retired list. Said board is further authorized, in its discretion, to pay full annuities to teachers in class one before annuities are paid to teachers in classes two and three, and to pay full annuities to teachers in class two before extending the benefits of said retirement fund to teachers in class three. Said board is further authorized, in its discretion, to add the income from said retirement fund to the principal thereof, paying no annuities or benefits until such time as, in the judgment of said board, said revenue shall be sufficiently large to warrant the disbursement thereof in whole or in part under the provisions of this act.

Sec. 125. *Existing rights preserved.* Nothing in this chapter shall affect rights accrued or accruing under the provisions of No. 70 of the acts of 1912, and time heretofore spent in teaching, as specified in said act, and any matter or thing heretofore done or performed under said act, shall be treated as being within the provisions of this chapter.

Part IV.

School Property and Equipment.

Chapter 1.

taking land for school purposes.

Sec. 126. *Duties of selectmen.* When the location of a schoolhouse is determined and land for such schoolhouse and grounds in connection therewith are necessary, or when a town

votes to purchase additional land as necessary for school purposes, if the owner refuses to convey the same to such town for a reasonable price, the selectmen of the town, or the selectmen of a town adjoining an unorganized town or gore in which such location has been determined, shall, on the application of the board of school directors, set out the necessary land and cause the same to be surveyed, and shall appoint a time and place for hearing and give notice thereof to the persons interested, either personally or by written notice left at the residence of the owner or occupant of such land, and, at such hearing, shall ascertain the damages sustained by said interested persons; and the damages agreed upon or assessed shall be paid or tendered to said persons before taking possession of such land.

Sec. 127. *Same.* When the selectmen decide to take land, they shall, in their order for that purpose, fix a time, and notify the owner or occupant thereof, within which he shall remove his buildings, fences, timber, wood or trees, which, in case of enclosed or improved land, shall not, without the consent of the owner, be less than three months, nor until compensation for damages to such land is tendered or paid; and, if they are not removed within such time, the selectmen shall remove them at the expense of the town.

Sec. 128. *Orders, proceedings and survey to be recorded.* Orders and proceedings of the selectmen, under the provisions of the two preceding sections, with the survey of the land taken, shall be recorded in the office of the clerk of the town in which such land lies, or, if an unorganized town or gore, in the county clerk's office.

Sec. 129. *Reference of question of damages.* If the owner of such land does not accept the damages awarded by the selectmen, the board of school directors of such town may agree with him to refer the question of damages to one or more disinterested persons, whose award shall be made in writing and shall be final.

Sec. 130. *Petition to county court; appointment of commissioners.* If a person interested in such land is dissatisfied with the action of the selectmen in locating and setting it out or with the damages awarded by them, he may apply by petition to the county court at its next stated term, if there is sufficient time for notice, and if not, to the succeeding term; and any number of persons aggrieved may join in such petition. The petition with a citation, shall be served on the clerk of the town at least twelve days before the session of the court; and the court shall appoint three disinterested commissioners, who shall inquire into the necessity for locating and setting out such land and as to the amount of damages sustained by the persons interested therein.

Sec. 131. *Hearing.* The commissioners shall give six days' notice to said town clerk and to the petitioners of the time and place of hearing; and when they have completed their in-

quiries, they shall report to the court; and, upon hearing, the court may accept or reject the report, in whole or in part, may make such orders as are necessary for locating and setting out such land and for the removal of obstructions therefrom, may render judgment for the petitioners for such damages as they have severally sustained, may tax costs for either party, and may award execution in the premises.

Sec. 132. *Notice to mortgagee or assignee.* If land so required by a town is encumbered by mortgage, such town shall cause the same notice to be given to the mortgagee or assignee of the mortgage as is required to be given to the owner; and the damages agreed upon, or otherwise determined, as specified in this chapter, shall be paid to the mortgagee or assignee; but if the sum due on the mortgage is less than the damages awarded, the amount due on the mortgage shall be paid to the holder of the mortgage and the balance to the owner of the land.

Sec. 133. *Title, when to vest.* When the damages finally awarded for land so taken by a town are paid to the person entitled thereto, title to such land shall vest in the town for the purposes aforesaid.

Chapter 2.

SCHOOL BUILDING AND EQUIPMENT.

Sec. 134. *Schoolhouses; taxes.* Each town shall provide, furnish and maintain schoolhouses suitable for schools under the provisions of this act; and the board of school directors, when so authorized by the town, shall have power to lease or purchase buildings or sites, to locate and erect schoolhouses, and to sell or otherwise dispose of buildings or sites, subject to the provisions of this act. For such purposes a town may raise a tax on its grand list.

Sec. 135. *Flags; school directors' duties.* The board of school directors shall cause to be erected on each schoolhouse, or on the premises belonging thereto, a suitable flag-pole, and shall, while the school is in session, at such times as they may direct, cause a United States flag, which shall not be lettered or marked in any way, to be displayed thereon. A person violating the provisions of this section shall be fined not more than ten dollars.

Chapter 3.

TEXT-BOOKS, APPLIANCES AND SUPPLIES.

Sec. 136. *Provided how.* The board of school directors of each town shall provide all text-books, appliances and supplies required for use in the public elementary schools therein, and the same shall be paid for by the town.

Sec. 137. *Care and custody.* The board of school directors shall make such rules and regulations as it deems proper for

the care and custody of text-books, appliances and supplies, provided for use in the public schools of the town, and shall furnish the same for the use of non-resident pupils under such regulations as the state board of education shall prescribe.

Sec. 138. *Loss, etc., of; liability.* A person having the control of a pupil shall be liable to the town for damage occasioned by the loss, destruction, or unnecessary injury or detention by such pupil of a text-book or appliance loaned to such pupil, to be recovered in an action on this statute in the name of the town.

Sec. 139. *Selection.* Except as otherwise provided in this act, the board of school directors shall, subject to the approval of the superintendent, select the text-books, appliances and supplies, to be used in the public schools of the town.

Part V.

Financial Support of Schools.

Chapter 1.

SCHOOL TAXES AND SCHOOL FUNDS.

Sec. 140. *Grand list.* The grand list of a town school district shall be made up of the ratable polls and real and personal estate therein.

Sec. 141. *Appropriation.* A town shall annually appropriate for school purposes a sum not less than forty cents on the dollar of the grand list of the town school district, and any town raising a less sum shall not be entitled to any of the benefits other than supervision, under this act.

Sec. 142. *Town treasurer to keep separate accounts.* The town treasurer shall keep a separate account of the moneys appropriated or given for the use of schools, and shall pay out of such moneys orders drawn by the board of school directors for school purposes.

Sec. 143. *Report by town treasurer.* Said treasurer shall report at each annual town meeting the amount of moneys received for school purposes, the source from which received, and how the same has been divided and paid.

UNITED STATES DEPOSIT MONEY.

Sec. 144. *State treasurer to receive.* The state treasurer shall receive moneys belonging to the United States to be deposited with this state, and give a certificate of deposit for the same according to law. Such moneys shall be apportioned to the several towns, unorganized towns and gores, in proportion to the number of inhabitants in each. When a census is taken under the laws of congress or of this state, a new apportionment shall be made. If upon such new apportionment it appears that a town has more than its share, the state treasurer shall

demand and recover from such town such excess; but if a town has less than its share, the deficiency shall be retained by the state treasurer and kept intact as a part of the principal of the permanent school fund.

Sec. 145. *Trustees of public money to give bond.* The trustees of public money shall, before entering upon the duties of their office, execute a bond to the town, with sufficient sureties, in such sum as the selectmen direct, conditioned for the faithful performance of their duties in loaning, managing, accounting for and paying over, as may be required by law, the moneys placed in their charge. If a trustee fails to execute such bond, his office shall be vacant, and such vacancies may be filled as vacancies in other town offices.

Sec. 146. *Towns accountable.* If a town has received its portion of deposit money, it shall be accountable for the same when required by the state treasurer on requisition of the United States, or for the purposes of a new apportionment, as a town is accountable for state taxes.

Sec. 147. *Neglect by towns.* The grand jury shall inquire how the towns have managed and disposed of the money so deposited with them and the annual interest thereof; and if a town has not complied with the provisions of the three preceding sections relative to such deposit money, it shall present to the court its indictment therefor against the town; and the clerk of said court shall give twenty days' notice thereof to such town, which shall be served as a writ of summons. On conviction on such indictment, said town shall be fined a sum not exceeding double the amount of the annual interest on such money to the use of the permanent school fund.

Sec. 148. *State treasurer to adjust accounts.* The state treasurer in the collection of the United States deposit money loaned by former treasurers, shall adjust and settle the same as is for the interest of the state.

PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND.

Sec. 149. *How constituted.* The sum of two hundred and forty thousand dollars returned by the national government to the state in settlement of the civil war claims, the Huntington fund, the United States deposit money and such other additions as may be made to the fund hereby established, shall be held intact and in reserve as a permanent school fund, heretofore called the permanent public school fund.*

TRUSTEES OF THE PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND.

Sec. 150. *How constituted.* Three persons, to be appointed by the governor, shall constitute a board to be known as trustees of the permanent school fund; provided that the existing board known as trustees of permanent school fund shall be so reor-

* See also No. 63, Acts of 1915.

ganized that the present appointive members thereof shall be trustees of the permanent school fund herein constituted for the term of two, four and six years, respectively, as the governor may select, from and including February 1, 1915, and until their successors are appointed and qualified, unless sooner removed by the governor. In the month of January, 1917, and biennially thereafter, the governor shall appoint a trustee of the permanent school fund for a term of six years from and including the first day of February next after such appointment, and until his successor is appointed and qualified, unless sooner removed by the governor.

Sec. 151. *Organization; meetings.* Said trustees shall organize by the election of a chairman and a secretary at a meeting to be held in the state capitol at two o'clock in the afternoon on the second Tuesday of February in each biennial year, or at an adjournment thereof, or at a special meeting duly called if the organization is not then completed. Regular meetings of the board shall be held at such times and places as the members by vote determine. On the request of any member of the board, the secretary shall call a special meeting thereof by notice in writing mailed to each member at least three days before such meeting; but the board may act without notice of a special meeting when all are present.

Sec. 152. *Duties.* The trustees of the permanent school fund shall, by unanimous action, make all investments of the permanent school fund and designate depositories therefor, and shall execute all checks, transfers or releases of securities, and do all things necessary to the proper management of the assets and income of such fund. Said trustees shall invest the permanent school fund in the following named securities only: United States bonds, state bonds, bonds of cities and school districts located in the United States, excluding territories and having a population of over twenty thousand, and bonds of towns, cities and villages in this state whose total indebtedness does not exceed five times the amount of the grand list. Said trustees may receive gifts, bequests, or additions to such permanent school fund; and all purchases and sales of securities shall be made by, and all securities shall be taken in the name of, and so far as possible made payable to, the trustees of the permanent school fund.

Sec. 153. *Compensation.* The trustees shall receive no compensation for their services, but shall be paid their necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

Sec. 154. *Vacancies; secretary, duties of.* Vacancies among the trustees shall be filled by the governor, and vacancies in the offices of the board shall be filled by the members at a regular meeting or at a special meeting called for that purpose. The secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of the board, recording in detail the proceedings relating to investments,

income and disbursements and the management of the permanent school fund.

Sec. 155. *Huntington fund.* On such part of the remainder of the Huntington fund heretofore converted to the use of the state as shall not have been at the time of the distribution of the income from the permanent school fund in each year, paid over to the trustees of the permanent school fund as hereinafter provided, six per cent interest shall annually be segregated by the state treasurer as a part of the income of the permanent school fund, and such interest shall be distributed like the other income from such fund; and, whenever at the end of any fiscal year there is a surplus in the state treasury over and above the liabilities of the state, such part of such surplus shall be paid over to the trustees of the permanent school fund as the trustees of such fund may determine at a meeting to be called for that purpose, until an amount equal to that part of the Huntington fund heretofore converted into cash by the state treasurer shall have been so transferred.

Sec. 156. *United States deposit money.* The United States deposit money held in the state treasury for towns which have not elected trustees of public money and for unorganized towns and gores, together with three per cent interest thereon since the last distribution, shall be turned over to the trustees of the permanent school fund at their request, the principal sum for investment as a part of the permanent school fund, and the amount of three per cent interest for distribution with the other income from the permanent school fund.

Sec. 157. *Same.* In case the United States deposit money heretofore apportioned to a town was, prior to December fifteenth, nineteen hundred and six, loaned to the town to which it was apportioned, the trustees of public money may continue annually to loan such public money to such town, with interest at five per cent per annum, until such time as said trustees see fit to collect the same, when it shall immediately be turned over to the state treasurer for the trustees of the permanent school fund.

Sec. 158. *Same.* The income from the United States deposit money, in towns where such fund is loaned to the town to which it has been apportioned, shall annually, on or before the tenth day of June, so long as such loan remains uncollected, be paid over by the trustees of public money to the state treasurer for the trustees of the permanent school fund for distribution with the other income from such permanent school fund.

Sec. 159. *Failure to pay United States deposit money, forfeitures.* If, in any town where its share of United States deposit money is already loaned to it, the trustees of public money fail to pay, within the time limited therefor, annually, the five per cent income derived therefrom, the income of the permanent school fund and the state school tax which would

otherwise thereafter be payable to such town shall be forfeited to the state and added to the principal of the permanent school fund; and such forfeiture shall thereafter be made from year to year, until such town has paid to the state treasurer, for the trustees of the permanent school fund, all sums in arrears, with interest thereon at the rate of six per cent per annum.

Sec. 160. *Accountable for United States deposit money.* The trustees of the permanent school fund shall be accountable for such part of the United States deposit money as is held by them, when required by the state treasurer on requisition of the United States.

Sec. 161. *Report.* The trustees of the permanent school fund shall present to the general assembly, on the first day of each biennial session, a report of their official acts, showing the amount and condition of such fund and the securities in which it is invested.

Sec. 162. *Audit.* The auditor of accounts and bank commissioner shall annually audit the accounts of the trustees of the permanent school fund and the accounts of the state treasurer in connection with such fund, examine the securities on hand and certify to the correctness of their transactions and the condition of the fund; and such certificate shall be included in the report of the state treasurer.

TOWN SCHOOL FUND.

Sec. 163. *Duties of selectmen.* The selectmen of a town shall have charge of the real and personal estate appropriated to the use of schools therein, unless otherwise provided by law, or unless the person giving a part thereof directs the same to be managed in some other way, and annually render an account to the town; and the selectmen shall lease such lands and loan such moneys on annual or semi-annual interest, upon sufficient real estate or personal security, in the state.

Sec. 164. *Same.* The securities for the payment of the money so loaned and the interest thereon shall be taken in the name of the town; and the selectmen may, in the name of the town, prosecute and defend actions for the recovery or protection of the estate so intrusted to their care. If the title or possession of real estate mortgaged or deeded as security is recovered in such action, the selectmen may, in the name of the town, lease or sell and convey such real estate, and invest the moneys received therefrom as provided in the preceding section.

Sec. 165. *Acknowledgments.* A person authorized may take the acknowledgment of a deed provided for in the two preceding sections, or may sign such deed as witness, although he is an inhabitant and taxpayer of the town.

Sec. 166. *Securities and moneys.* The securities belonging to the town school fund shall be deposited in the office of the town treasurer, to be kept by him in the fireproof safe or

vault of the town, and moneys received on account of the same shall be paid into such treasury and a separate account thereof shall be kept on the books of the treasurer.

STATE SCHOOL TAX.

Sec. 167. *Assessment.* A tax of ten cents on the dollar shall be annually assessed upon the grand list for the support of public schools.

Sec. 168. *Apportionment.* The state treasurer shall apportion such tax to the several towns, according to their respective grand lists as shown by the list prepared annually by the commissioner of taxes from the abstracts of the grand lists of such towns, which are required to be returned to his office, and shall annually, on or before the first day of September, make out and transmit to each town treasurer a notice of the amount so apportioned and that the same must be paid into the state treasury on or before the first day of October following, and also issue and transmit at the same time, to said collector, a warrant for the collection of such tax.

Sec. 169. *Payment.* The town or city treasurer shall, upon receipt of such notice, transmit the same to the selectmen or mayor, who shall draw an order on the town or city treasurer for the amount of such tax; and the treasurer shall pay the same into the state treasury out of any money belonging to the town or city. If the funds in the hands of such town or city treasurer are not sufficient to pay the tax, the selectmen or mayor shall borrow the necessary amounts upon orders.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Sec. 170. *Grand juries to investigate.* Grand juries shall annually inquire whether towns in their counties have apportioned and expended the required sum for the support of schools as provided in this chapter; and, in case of neglect, they shall present their indictment thereof to the court.

Sec. 171. *Superintendents to make inquiry.* The superintendent shall ascertain whether the requirements of this chapter relating to the appropriation and expenditure of money from the town treasury for the support of schools under his charge are complied with; and, in case of non-compliance, he shall bring the matter to the attention of the state's attorney or grand jury.

Part VI.

APPLICATION OF PROVISIONS.

Sec. 172. *Application of provisions.* The provisions of this act so far as they are applicable and not inconsistent with the rights granted by their charters shall apply to specially incorporated school districts and cities.

Sec. 173. *Same.* Supervisors for unorganized towns and

gores shall perform all the duties, and have all the authority and be subject to all the liabilities of school directors and truant officers of organized towns, as to all matters pertaining to schools in their respective unorganized towns or gores.

Part VII.

appropriation, consolidation and distribution.

Chapter 1.

Sec. 174. *Special appropriation.* The sum of one hundred thirty thousand dollars is hereby appropriated annually as a part of the consolidated school fund hereinafter provided for.

Sec. 175. *Consolidated school fund.* The receipts from the state tax assessed by section 168 of this act, from the income of the permanent school fund, and from the one hundred thirty thousand dollars hereby appropriated, shall form a fund to be known as the consolidated school fund, for annual apportionment and distribution under the provisions of this act.

Sec. 176. *Apportionment.* Said consolidated school fund shall annually be apportioned by the state board of education for the purposes specified in the following section; provided if the amount specified for any particular purpose is more than is required therefor, then the excess shall be added to the fund apportioned for that year for the purpose of equalizing opportunities and rates of expenditure; and provided further, that if the amount so specified for any particular purpose is less than is required therefor, then said board in its discretion may use for that purpose such portion of said equalizing fund as may be necessary.

Sec. 177. *Same.* Said consolidated school fund shall, subject to the provision of the preceding section and under regulations to be made by the state board of education, be apportioned by it as follows:

(a) For the general administration and office purposes of the state board of education, including the per diem and expenses of members, clerk hire, and the salaries and expenses of the executive officers of the board.....$24,000.00

(b) For the salaries and expenses of superintendents $100,000.00

(c) For the training of teachers for the elementary schools $45,000.00

(d) For summer schools, educational meetings, and like supplementary educational activities.....$2,500.00

(e) For the transportation and board of scholars in the elementary schools.....$100,000.00

(f) For the payment of a portion of the salaries of teachers as provided by section 105 of this act.....$110,000.00

(g) The balance of the consolidated school fund provided by section 176 of this act is hereby placed at the disposal of the state board of education for the purpose of aiding the rural schools of the state and for the purpose of equalizing educational opportunities and advantages.

Sec. 178. *Expenditures.* The auditor of accounts is hereby directed to draw his orders to such persons and for such amounts as the state board of education shall direct, not exceeding in the aggregate during any school year the amount of the said consolidated school fund.

Part VIII.

REPEALS, ETC.

Sec. 179. *Repeals.* This act is intended to supersede the entire body of the statute law of the state in force at the time of its enactment, relating to the subject of public instruction in the elementary schools, except chapters 50, 56, 60, 61, 62 and 63 of the Public Statutes and subsequent legislation, relating to the subject matter thereof, which are hereby continued in force in so far as the same are not inconsistent with the provisions of this act; and all acts and parts of acts superseded by this act, and all acts and parts of acts inconsistent with the provisions of this act, are hereby repealed as of July 1, 1915; provided that the provisions of this act, so far as they are the same as those of existing laws, shall be construed as a continuation of existing laws and not as new enactments.

Sec. 180. *Statutes amended.* Any section of the Public Statutes or any amendment thereof or addition thereto, not repealed or superseded by the provisions of this act, that contain the words "superintendent of education" is hereby amended by substituting in lieu of said words the words "commissioner of education."

Sec. 181. Number 76 of the acts of 1912, in so far as it relates to the consolidated school fund, and the method of distribution thereof, and the collection of the state school tax, and the income of the permanent school fund, and the appropriation thereunder, is hereby continued in full force and effect until the distribution thereunder is made in September 1915, and is then repealed.

Sec. 182. Chapters 1, 2 and 3 of part I; chapters 1, 4 and 5 of part III; chapters 1, 2 and 3 of part IV; chapter 1 of part V; and all of part VI shall take effect from its passage. Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 of part II, chapters 2 and 3 of part III and all of part VII shall take effect July 1, 1915.

Approved April 1, 1915.

No. 65.

AN ACT RELATING TO THE DUTIES OF THE SCHOOL DIRECTORS IN MAKING THEIR ANNUAL REPORT OF SCHOOL MATTERS OF THE TOWN AND REPEALING CERTAIN LAWS INCONSISTENT WITH THIS ACT.

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Section 1. On or before the tenth day of February, annually, the school board of a town shall prepare an itemized and classified statement of its expenditures for the twelve months ending on the last day of January preceding, a statement of the amount of moneys on hand, a written statement of the conditions and needs of the schools, and shall submit to the town auditors these statements, together with a recommendation of the amount of money needed for the following school year and a copy of the certificate given it by said auditors, and said auditors shall include such statements, recommendation, and a copy of certificate in their report to the town.

Sec. 2. All acts or parts of acts inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed.

Sec. 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 1915.

Approved March 31, 1915.

No. 66.

AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE A SUM OF MONEY FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE STATE NORMAL SCHOOLS AT CASTLETON AND JOHNSON.

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Section 1. The sum of five thousand dollars is hereby annually appropriated for the support of the state normal schools at Castleton and Johnson.

Sec. 2. The sum appropriated by this act is to be assigned to said normal schools in such proportion and for such purposes as shall be designated by the board of education.

Sec. 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 1915.

Approved March 31, 1915.

No. 67.

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 983 OF THE PUBLIC STATUTES, RELATING TO SCHOOL HOUSES.

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Section 1. Section 983 of the Public Statutes is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

Sec. 983. A town shall provide and maintain suitable school houses, and the location and construction of the same shall be under the control of the board of school directors; but said school directors shall not in any one year, without authorization by vote of the town, expend in constructing or repairing school houses a sum exceeding in amount ten per cent of the grand list of the town.

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect from its passage.

Approved March 27, 1915.

No. 68.

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 1006 OF THE PUBLIC STATUTES, RELATING TO SCHOOL DIRECTORS' DUTIES.

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Section 1. Section 1006 of the Public Statutes is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

Section 1006. Schools shall be located in such places and held at such times as, in the judgment of the board of school directors, will best subserve the interests of education and give the pupils of the town equal advantages so far as practicable. Said board may, in its discretion, provide conveyance for pupils to and from school at the expense of the town from such points as it designates, or may pay a reasonable sum for the board of such pupils while in attendance upon school.

If a child is unable to attend a public school on account of a permanent physical disability, the school board may, upon the certificate of a legally qualified physician, employ a competent teacher to instruct such child at home or at any other place it may designate, and may prescribe such time for study and recitation as it may deem best. The expense of such instruction shall be included in the regular school expenses and shall not exceed one dollar per week for such pupil.

Approved March 15, 1915.

No. 69.

AN ACT RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH SCHOOLS AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION.

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Section 1. *Classification of junior and senior high schools.* The state board of education may, with the approval of the school directors in the towns concerned, divide the secondary schools of the state, now existing or hereafter to be established, into two classes:

(a) Junior high schools, having a four-year course; and

(b) Senior high schools, having a six-year course.

Junior high schools.

Sec. 2. *Maintenance.* A junior high school may be maintained in any town, unless by arrangement an academy in a town is in effect made the public school thereof, where the number of secondary school pupils to be conveniently accommodated shall reasonably warrant it; but no academy shall be regarded as the public high school of a town, except upon the approval of the state board of education.

Sec. 3. *Instruction outside town.* In a town where no junior high school is maintained and where there is no academy answering its purpose, nor recognition of junior high school work in an elementary school in accordance with the provisions of the preceding section, the board of school directors may, subject to the approval of the state board of education, arrange for the instruction of the town's junior high school pupils outside the town.

Sec. 4. *Courses.* Each junior high school shall have a four-year course, flexible in character, designed for the instruction of pupils who have completed an elementary course of not less than six years, and suitable to the number and needs of local pupils; and the state board of education shall arrange for a course of study, including vocational opportunities, appropriate to the needs of the pupils in the several communities. In any town where a junior high school is established the state board of education shall make the necessary readjustment of the course of study in the elementary schools.

Senior high schools.

Sec. 5. *Establishment.* Wherever necessity requires and the school directors approve, there may be as many central and readily accessible senior high schools, articulating directly with all neighboring junior high schools, as the number of pupils desiring the advanced instruction given only in this class of schools shall reasonably demand. The number and location of

such schools, and the regions to be served thereby, shall be determined by the state board of education; and said board may designate an academy as a senior high school.

Sec. 6. *Instruction outside town.* In towns where no senior high school is maintained and where no academy is designated as such, the board of school directors may, subject to the approval of the state board of education, arrange for the instruction of the town's senior high school pupils outside the town.

Sec. 7. *Courses.* Each senior high school shall have:

(a) A four-year junior course of study as in the junior high school; and

(b) A two-year senior course of study, in advance of the junior course of study, appropriate to the youth of seventeen to nineteen years of age, who are fitting for college, or are completing a course of general education, or are seeking advanced vocational education.

Vocational Education.

Sec. 8. *In junior high schools.* Junior high schools shall include, in accordance with such directions and regulations as to courses, teachers and equipment as the state board of education may prescribe, within their courses of study a vocational course in one or more of the following subjects: agriculture, manual arts, commercial subjects or domestic science, appropriate to the needs and environment of the particular school.

Sec. 9. *Expenses.* The expense of maintaining vocational courses in junior high schools shall be borne by the towns in which such schools are respectively located; and the state board of education shall annually, from the funds hereinafter appropriated, apportion such sums to reimburse the towns for such expense as will tend fairly to equalize the facilities afforded by such courses and the burden of maintaining the same; and the state board of education may provide, for use in connection with said schools and at the expense of the state, such land as may be required for suitable instruction in gardening and other appropriate study in agriculture.

Sec. 10. *In senior high schools.* Senior high schools shall include within their courses of study vocational courses as follows:

(a) In the four-year junior division there shall be maintained in accordance with such directions and regulations as to courses, teachers and equipment as the state board of education may prescribe, vocational courses in one or more of the following subjects: agriculture, manual arts, commercial subjects or domestic science, appropriate for pupils from twelve to sixteen years of age.

(b) In the two-year senior division there shall be maintained advanced vocational courses in the subjects mentioned in subdivision (a) hereof, appropriate for pupils qualified for admission thereto; and the state board of education shall prescribe the requirements for such admission.

Sec. 11. *Same; teachers and equipment.* The state board of education shall prescribe and supervise the vocational courses in senior high schools and appoint the teachers therefor; excepting that all courses in agriculture, both in junior and in senior high schools, shall be approved by the trustees of the state agricultural schools.

Sec. 12. *Expenses.* The expense of maintaining vocational courses in senior high schools shall annually be apportioned by the state board of education between the state and the town served by such schools, and among said towns in such manner as will tend fairly to equalize the facilities afforded by such courses and the burden of maintaining the same; and the state board of education may provide, for use in connection with said schools and at the expense of the state, such land as may be required for suitable instruction in gardening and other appropriate study in agriculture.

Sec. 13. *Discretion.* All matters of decision undetermined by the language of this act shall be at the discretion of the state board of education.

Sec. 14. *Appropriation.* For the purposes of sections 9 and 12 of this act the sum of five thousand dollars is hereby annually appropriated. The unexpended balance of this appropriation shall every year be paid to the permanent school fund.

Sec. 15. This act shall take effect July 1, 1915.

Approved April 1, 1915.

No. 70.

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR HIGHER INSTRUCTION IN HIGH SCHOOLS, SEMINARIES AND ACADEMIES AND TO AMEND SECTION 1017 OF THE PUBLIC STATUTES RELATING THERETO.

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Section 1. Section 1017 of the Public Statutes is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

Sec. 1017. Each town shall maintain a high school, or, if a town does not maintain a high school, it shall furnish higher instruction for its advanced pupils at a high school, seminary or academy to be selected by the parents, or guardian of the pupil, within or without the state, and each town shall pay the tuition of such pupil provided the same does not exceed thirty-six dollars per school year, unless a town votes to pay a higher rate of tuition. For the purposes of this act the residence of a child shall follow the residence of the parent or guardian, except that in special

cases the school directors may exercise discretionary power in the matter of payment of tuitions. In case of a dispute as to the same, an appeal shall be taken to the commissioner of education whose decision shall be final.

Sec. 2. Each town maintaining a high school or paying tuition for higher instruction in a high school, seminary or academy shall receive from the state a rebate for such higher instruction upon the following basis: towns having a grand list of five thousand dollars or less shall receive twenty dollars per pupil per school year; towns having a grand list of more than five thousand dollars and not more than seven thousand dollars shall receive fifteen dollars per pupil per school year; towns having a grand list of more than seven thousand dollars and not more than ten thousand dollars shall receive ten dollars per pupil per school year; towns having a grand list of more than ten thousand dollars and not more than fifteen thousand dollars shall receive five dollars per pupil per school year, but towns having a grand list of more than fifteen thousand dollars shall receive no rebate. An incorporated school district shall be considered a town for the purpose of this act.

Sec. 3. The school directors of each town shall annually in July beginning with July, 1916, certify under oath to the auditor of accounts in such form as said auditor may direct, the number of pupils who have been furnished with such higher instruction, and said auditor shall thereupon draw his order in favor of each town for the amount due therefor.

Sec. 4. No town shall pay the tuition of a pupil for the first year of a four year course in any high school or academy until said pupil has received a certificate from the superintendent stating that said pupil has satisfactorily completed the elementary school course or has passed an examination to be prescribed by the board of education and is qualified to enter upon such high school course.

Sec. 5. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed except that No. 76 of the acts of 1912 in so far as it relates to the consolidated school fund, and the method of distribution thereof, and the collection of the state school tax, and the income of the permanent school fund, and the appropriation thereunder, is hereby continued in full force and effect until the distribution thereunder is made in September, 1915.

Sec. 6. This act shall take effect September 1, 1915.

Approved April 2, 1915.

No. 71.

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR A SUPPLEMENTARY READER ON VERMONT INDUSTRIES AND RESOURCES.

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Section 1. The secretary of state, through the publicity department of the state of Vermont, is hereby authorized to compile and edit a book or pamphlet on the agricultural and other industries and resources of Vermont suitable to be used as a supplementary reader in such grades of the public schools as may be determined by the superintendent of education. The purchasing agent is hereby directed to procure the publication of a sufficient number of copies of such text-book to supply said schools. Such copies shall, on requisition of said superintendent, be sent to the town or union superintendents in number sufficient to supply the schools of their respective towns or unions.

Sec. 2. The auditor of accounts shall draw his orders in payment of the expenses incurred under the preceding section, provided that such expenses shall not exceed twenty-five hundred dollars.

Sec. 3. This act shall take effect from its passage.*

Approved March 9, 1915.

No. 72.

AN ACT RELATING TO THE MEDICAL INSPECTION OF SCHOOLS.

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Section 1. The school directors of any town or city, or the school committee of any incorporated district, shall appoint one or more medical inspectors for their schools, provided the legal voters of such town, city, or incorporated district at their annual school meeting by vote instruct said directors or committee so to do. The compensation of such inspectors shall be fixed by the school directors or prudential committee.

Sec. 2. Such medical inspectors shall examine the pupils of said schools, and in all things comply with such rules and regulations as may be promulgated by the state board of health relating thereto.

* Section 4, No. 241, Acts of 1915.

Sec. 3. Said inspectors shall, under the same regulations, examine the pupils of any private school when requested so to do by the principal thereof, or whenever any communicable disease is present in any town or city in which such private school may be located or when the pupils thereof may have been exposed to any communicable disease.

Sec. 4. When the parents, guardians or those having the legal control of any pupil desire that such examination be made by a physician other than the medical inspector appointed by the school directors, such privilege shall be granted on written demand being made to the school directors therefor; and such examination when so made and certified to by such regular physician shall be in lieu of that made by the regularly appointed inspector, and such examination shall be without expense to the towns.

Sec. 5. The term "medical inspectors" as used in this act shall be construed to mean either licensed physicians or trained nurses.

Sec. 6. No. 73 of the acts of 1910 is hereby repealed.

Approved March 30, 1915.

No. 73.

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 5 OF NO. 81 OF THE ACTS OF 1912, RELATING TO THE CARE, TRAINING AND EDUCATION OF FEEBLE-MINDED CHILDREN.

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Section 1. Section 5 of No. 81 of the acts of 1912 is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

Sec. 5. Each member of said board shall receive four dollars a day for services rendered and necessary expenses when away from home on official business.

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect from its passage.

Approved April 2, 1915.

No. 74.

AN ACT TO PROVIDE AN ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE STATE SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE AT RANDOLPH.

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Section 1. The sum of seven thousand dollars is hereby appropriated in addition to the appropriation made by No. 69

of the acts of 1912, for the purpose of building and equipping a dormitory for the state school of agriculture at Randolph.

Sec. 2. The auditor of accounts is hereby directed to draw his orders upon the requisition of said trustees for such sums, not exceeding seven thousand dollars in the whole, as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this act.

Sec. 3. This act shall take effect from its passage.

Approved April 1, 1915.

No. 75.

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 5 OF NO. 62 OF THE ACTS OF 1910, RELATING TO THE CREATION OF A STATE SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE.

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Section 1. Section 5 of No. 62 of the acts of 1910 is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

Sec. 5. Twelve thousand dollars is hereby appropriated annually by the state for the maintenance of the school so established.

The auditor of accounts is hereby directed to draw his order in such amounts and at such times as the board of trustees may request, not exceeding the amount of said appropriation.

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect from its passage.

Approved March 30, 1915.

No. 76.

AN ACT TO CREATE THE THEODORE N. VAIL AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL AND PROVIDING FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THE STATE SCHOOLS OF AGRICULTURE.

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Section 1. A state school of agriculture, to be known as the Theodore N. Vail agricultural school and farms is hereby created and established at Lyndon for the purpose of developing the agricultural resources of the state through practical instruction in agriculture, including tillage, crop-raising, gardening, orcharding, forestry, dairying, stock-raising, farm management, marketing and the allied subjects of domestic science and the manual arts.

Sec. 2. The Theodore N. Vail agricultural school and farms and the state school of agriculture at Randolph are hereby constituted the special agricultural schools of the state for the purposes enumerated in section 1 of this act.

Sec. 3. The board of trustees of the Theodore N. Vail agricultural school and farms and the state school of agriculture at Randolph above specified shall consist of the commissioner of agriculture and the dean of the state agricultural college *ex-officio*, and three trustees to be appointed by the governor; one whose term shall expire January 31, 1917, one whose term shall expire January 31, 1919, and one whose term shall expire January 31, 1921; and their successors shall be appointed for the term of six years. The commissioner of agriculture shall be chairman. The board shall elect a vice-chairman, secretary and treasurer. The board of trustees shall have the general care, supervision, management and control of all schools of agriculture and farms maintained or in any way aided by the state.

It shall have general authority:

(a) To appoint, and, at its pleasure, remove, a superintendent, a principal, teachers, experts and chemists, and employ all necessary laborers, servants, clerks and assistants;

(b) To adopt rules and regulations for the management of such schools and farms not inconsistent with law;

(c) To prescribe the courses of study and the methods of investigation and experiment to be followed in the schools and on the farms and formulate and establish the certificates to be conferred at graduation;

(d) To fix the wages of all persons appointed or employed by them;

(e) To increase and strengthen the equipment and teaching staff of the schools, and to revise the present courses of instruction therein, giving special attention to the development of vocational courses incident to agricultural training;

(f) "To manage and carry on all the lands and care for the buildings covered by the gift of Theodore N. Vail and the state school of agriculture at Randolph, to sell and dispose of all the products of said schools and farms as said trustees may deem best and pay all moneys received from all sources in the care and management of said schools and farms into the state treasury."

Sec. 4. The trustees appointed by the governor shall receive four dollars for each day actually spent and their necessary expenses while away from home on the business of the board.

The trustees shall make full report biennially to the general assembly of the work done during the two years preceeding, the condition of the schools and their needs, and the condition of their property, with a detailed statement of the financial condition of the schools, the moneys received, from what sources, and the moneys expended and for what purposes.

Sec. 5. The board is authorized to receive, in the name of the state, appropriations, donations and bequests which may be made or given for the equipment and maintenance of the schools and farms and pay the same into the state treasury subject to the restrictions and limitations of such donations and bequests.

Sec. 6. The state treasurer is hereby authorized to receive all moneys donated or bequeathed to said schools and farms and the proceeds and receipts of such schools and farms and hold the same subject to the provisions and limitations of such donations and bequests, and the provisions of this act, to the use of said schools and farms and to receive any and all moneys now or hereafter appropriated by any act of Congress, extending aid to such schools and farms or like schools and on the order of the auditor of accounts to pay the same or the income and profit thereof, to the treasurer of said trustees for the benefit of said schools and farms, according to the provisions of this act and according to the provisions of said donations and bequests and the provisions of any and all acts of Congress, now or hereafter passed.

Sec. 7. The sum of twenty thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby annually appropriated for the expense of the Theodore N. Vail agricultural school and farms and the auditor of accounts is hereby directed to draw orders not to exceed such amount and payable to the treasurer of the board, upon the requisition of the superintendent approved by three of the trustees.

Sec. 8. This act shall take effect from its passage, provided, however, that so much of this act as relates to the Theodore N. Vail agricultural school and farms shall not take effect until the state has received from the Theodore N. Vail a sufficient deed of the agricultural school at Lyndon and the farm and farm buildings at Speedwell in Lyndon.

Approved March 31, 1915.

No. 77.

AN ACT RELATING TO THE EDUCATION OF DEAF AND BLIND CHILDREN.

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Section 1. Any deaf or blind child who is within the age of legal pupils, as defined by section 1027 of the Public Statutes as amended by section 1 of No. 69 of the acts of 1910, and who is designated by the governor to any institution for the education of the deaf and blind in this state, under the provisions of chapter 60 of the Public Statutes and amendments thereto, shall

attend such designated school during its regular sessions for a period for which said child is designated unless said child is mentally or physically unable to so attend or has already acquired knowledge of the branches required to be taught in the public schools or is otherwise being furnished with the same education, provided that said child shall not be required to attend more than forty weeks in any school year.

Sec. 2. A parent or guardian who neglects or refuses to permit a child to receive instruction, as specified in section 1 of this act, shall be fined not more than twenty-five dollars nor less than five dollars which shall be paid to the town where said parent or guardian resides. Justices and municipal courts shall have concurrent jurisdiction with the county court of offenses arising under this act, and all the provisions of chapter 49 of the Public Statutes, relating to complaint and prosecution, shall apply to this act.

Approved March 18, 1915.

No. 78.

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS 13 AND 17 OF NO. 81 OF THE ACTS OF 1912, PROVIDING FOR THE CARE, TRAINING AND EDUCATION OF FEEBLE-MINDED CHILDREN.

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Section 1. Section 13 of No. 81 of the acts of 1912 is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

Sec. 13. Application in writing signed by the parent or guardian of a child considered a proper subject to receive the benefits of this act, or by the selectmen of the town, may be made to a judge of probate for the district in which such child resides for an order of commitment to said school, and thereupon such judge shall appoint a day for hearing. If such application is made by the selectmen of a town, ten days notice shall be given the parent or guardian, or the person having such child in charge if there be no parent or guardian living, or, if living, his residence or domicile is unknown. At such hearing, the certificates of two physicians who are graduates of a legally organized and approved medical school, stating that such child is a suitable and proper subject for commitment to said school, shall be filed with said judge. Said judge may hear any other testimony he may deem proper to be submitted to him. If said judge, after hearing, is of the opinion such child ought to be committed to said school, he shall issue an order of commitment directed to said trustees and attach to such order a certified copy, under his official seal, of said two certificates, and thereupon said

trustees, if there be room in said school, shall receive such child therein.

Sec. 2. Section 17 of No. 81 of the acts of 1912 is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

Sec. 17. A sum not exceeding sixty-five thousand dollars is hereby appropriated for the establishment of such school to be used for the purpose of purchasing real estate, and for the erection, repair and equipment of buildings and for the purchase of necessary tools, machinery and animals for the use of such school; and the auditor of accounts is hereby directed to draw his orders in favor of the trustees of such school for such amounts and at such times as the trustees may request. The auditor of accounts is hereby authorized to audit and allow the accounts of said trustees for the expenses incurred under the provisions of this section.

Sec. 3. This act shall take effect from its passage.

Approved March 31, 1915.

No. 79.

AN ACT TO PROVIDE AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE COLLEGE OF MEDICINE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT AND STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Section 1. The auditor of accounts shall draw his order in favor of the treasurer of the University of Vermont and State Agricultural College for thirty thousand dollars annually for the exclusive use of the college of medicine connected with said institution in furnishing clinical facilities and in providing for medical instruction and the facilities and equipment therefor.

Sec. 2. One-half of such appropriation shall be payable on the first day of July and the other half on the first day of January, annually, beginning with the first day of July, 1915.

Sec. 3. Section 2 of No. 83 of the acts of 1912 is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

Sec. 2. The auditor of accounts shall annually draw his order in favor of the treasurer of the University of Vermont and State Agricultural College for forty-eight hundred dollars for the University of Vermont and State Agricultural College, which shall be used for the payment of tuition charges of sixty students from Vermont in said university to the extent of eighty dollars annually. Each senator in the general assembly shall annually on or before August first, designate and appoint two worthy and needy students to said university and the scholarships thus awarded shall be for a period of two years.

A vacancy in a scholarship shall be filled by the senator who originally made the appointment or by his successor. If a senator fails to appoint to any scholarship before the beginning of the college year following the expiration of the appointment made by his predecessor, after notice from the registrar of the University of Vermont and State Agricultural College of such expiration and vacancy, the registrar shall designate and appoint a student to such scholarship.

Sec. 4. Section 4 of No. 75 of the acts of 1910 is hereby repealed.

Sec. 5. This act shall take effect from its passage.

Approved April 2, 1915.

No. 80.

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 5 OF NO. 83 OF THE ACTS OF 1912, WITH REFERENCE TO APPROPRIATIONS FOR SCHOLARSHIPS AND INSTRUCTION IN MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE AND TO PROVIDE A BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS IN SAID COLLEGE.

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Section 1. Section 5 of No. 83 of the acts of 1912 is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

Sec. 5. The auditor of accounts shall draw his order in favor of the treasurer of Middlebury college for twelve thousand eight hundred dollars annually. One-half of such appropriation shall be payable on the first day of July and the other half on the first day of January annually. Ten thousand four hundred dollars of such appropriation shall be annually expended by such institution in providing instruction in subjects essential for students preparing to teach in Vermont high schools and academies.

Two thousand four hundred dollars of such appropriation shall be annually expended by such institution in paying the tuition to the amount of eighty dollars, of thirty Vermont students selected as follows:

Each senator in the general assembly shall, on or before August 1, 1915, designate a worthy and needy student to receive a scholarship in said college and such appointment shall be for one year. Thereafter in each even year each senator in the general assembly shall, on or before August first, designate a student to receive a scholarship in said college, and such appointment shall be for two years. A vacancy in a scholarship shall be filled by the senator who originally made the appointment or by his successor. If a senator fails to appoint to any scholarship before the time aforesaid or fails to appoint to fill a vacancy

within thirty days after notice from the president of said college that a vacancy exists, the college shall designate and appoint a student to such scholarship.

Sec. 2. The governor shall biennially, in the month of January, with the advice and consent of the senate, appoint three persons who shall constitute a board of trustees of public funds of Middlebury college, whose term of office shall be for two years from and including the first day of February in the year of such appointment and until their successors have been appointed. The governor shall fill vacancies occurring in said board.

Sec. 3. Said board shall meet at said college during the first week of February and of June of each year to audit the accounts of the college with special reference to the expenditure of money appropriated to said college. At its June meeting this board shall supervise the making of the college budgets for the ensuing year so far as said budgets involve the expenditure of funds appropriated by the state and their relations to the general expenditures of the college. They shall make such other inspections as they deem necessary to assure their intimate knowledge of the use made of such funds and of the general conduct of the affairs of said college. Biennially, and oftener if necessary, prior to convening of the general assembly they shall make complete report of their findings and recommendations to the governor. The expenses of the members of said board incident to the duties of their office shall be paid by the treasurer of the institution. The provisions and penalties of section 5962 of the Public Statutes shall apply to members of this board.

Sec. 4. This act shall take effect from its passage.

Approved April 2, 1915.

No. 81.

AN ACT IN AMENDMENT OF SECTIONS 1187, 1189, 1190, 1191 AND 1192 OF THE PUBLIC STATUTES, AS AMENDED BY SECTIONS 6, 8, 10, 11 AND 12 OF NO. 83 OF THE ACTS OF 1912, AND REPEALING SECTION 1188 OF THE PUBLIC STATUTES, AS AMENDED BY SECTION 7 OF NO. 83 OF THE ACTS OF 1912, AND ALSO REPEALING SECTIONS 9 AND 14 OF NO. 83 OF THE ACTS OF 1912, RELATING TO NORWICH UNIVERSITY.

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Section 1. Section 1187 of the Public Statutes, as amended by section 6 of No. 83 of the acts of 1912, is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

Sec. 1187. Each senator shall annually on or before the first day of August select and appoint at least one worthy candidate for free scholarships provided by Norwich University in accordance with the terms hereinafter named. Said candidates shall be residents of the state and, if such apply, of the county for which the senator is serving; provided that men of legal age shall not be eligible for said appointment unless they were minor residents of the state at the time of, or were qualified to vote at the next preceding general election. Appointments to fill vacant unexpired scholarships shall be made in the same manner.

Sec. 2. Section 1188 of the Public Statutes, as amended by section 7 of No. 83 of the acts of 1912, is hereby repealed.

Sec. 3. Section 1189 of the Public Statutes, as amended by section 8 of No. 83 of the acts of 1912, is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

Sec. 1189. The auditor of accounts shall annually draw his order in favor of said institution for the sum of twenty thousand dollars; ten thousand dollars thereof shall be payable to the treasurer of said institution on the first day of July and of January, semi-annually. Said appropriation shall be expended in carrying out the provisions of the charter of said Norwich University through the payment of the salaries of its instructional force and in suitably providing for the additions to and the maintenance of, laboratories and equipment for its work in engineering, in the natural sciences, and in physical culture; provided that said college shall maintain free scholarships two hundred or more in number, to cover one hundred dollars of the yearly expense of each student from Vermont appointed in accordance with the provisions of section 1 of this act.

Sec. 4. Section 9 of No. 83 of the acts of 1912 is hereby repealed.

Sec. 5. Section 1190 of the Public Statutes, as amended by section 10 of No. 83 of the acts of 1912, is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

Sec. 1190. A record of all receipts and expenditures of money paid to said institution under the provisions of this act shall be kept by it in a separate and independent account.

Sec. 6. Section 1191 of the Public Statutes, as amended by section 11 of No. 83 of the acts of 1912, is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

Sec. 1191. The governor shall biennially, during the session of the general assembly, with the advice and consent of the senate, appoint one person, who, with the auditor of accounts and the adjutant general shall compose a board of administration whose term of office shall commence upon the date of their appointment and shall continue until their successors have been appointed. The governor shall fill vacancies occurring in said board.

Sec. 7. Section 1192 of the Public Statutes, as amended by section 12 of No. 83 of the acts of 1912, is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

Sec. 1192. Said board of administration shall meet at said college during the first week of February and of August each year to audit the accounts of the college with special reference to the expenditure of money appropriated under the provisions of this act. At its August meeting this board shall supervise the making of the college budgets for the ensuing year so far as said budgets involve the expenditure of funds appropriated by the state and their relation to the general expenditures of the college. They shall make such other inspections as they deem necessary to assure to them intimate knowledge of the use made of said funds and of the general conduct of the affairs of the institution. Biennially and oftener, if necessary, prior to the convening of the general assembly, they shall make complete report of their findings and recommendations to the governor. The expenses of the members of said board incident to the duties of their office shall be paid by the treasurer of the institution.

Sec. 8. Section 14 of No. 83 of the acts of 1912 is hereby repealed.

Sec. 9. This act shall take effect from its passage.

Approved April 2, 1915.

No. 116.

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 3477 OF THE PUBLIC STATUTES AS AMENDED BY NO. 110 OF THE ACTS OF 1910 AND BY NO. 119 OF THE ACTS OF 1912, RELATING TO TOWN OFFICERS.

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Section 1. Section 3477 of the Public Statutes, as amended by No. 110 of the acts of 1910 and No. 119 of the acts of 1912, is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

Sec. 3477. A selectman shall not be first constable, collector of taxes, town treasurer, lister, road commissioner or auditor; provided, however, that in towns having not more than twenty-five legal voters, a selectman may also be elected a lister, or a road commissioner, or both. An auditor shall not be first constable, collector of taxes, town treasurer, lister, road commissioner or school director; and no town official collecting, handling or disbursing the town's funds shall be an auditor. In towns whose population exceeds fifteen hundred, a town clerk shall not be first constable or collector of taxes.

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect from its passage.

Approved February 26, 1915.

No. 117.

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS 3498, 3509 AND 3512 OF THE PUBLIC STATUTES, AS AMENDED BY No. 120 OF THE ACTS OF 1912, RELATING TO SETTLEMENT OF ACCOUNTS BY TOWN OFFICERS.

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

SEC. 1. * * * *

SEC. 2. * * * *

Sec. 3. Section 3512 of the Public Statutes, as amended by section 3 of No. 120 of the acts of 1912, is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

Sec. 3512 * * * * school directors and * * * * shall, not less than twenty days and not more than forty days before each annual town meeting, settle their accounts with the auditors of such town. If any such officer refuses or neglects to make such settlement, he shall be ineligible to re-election for the year ensuing.

Approved March 9, 1915.

No. 193.

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 5412 OF THE PUBLIC STATUTES, AS AMENDED BY SECTION 1 OF NO. 215 OF THE ACTS OF 1910, RELATING TO PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Section 1. Section 5412 of the Public Statutes, as amended by section 1 of No. 215 of the acts of 1910, is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

Sec. 5412. The words "public buildings," as used in this chapter, shall mean churches, court houses, jails, municipal rooms, state and county institutions, railroad stations, school buildings, school and society halls, hotels and restaurants more than two stories high, all buildings more than two stories high used or rented for tenements, boarders or roomers, and places of amusement one story or more in height; also factories, mills, workshops or other buildings more than two stories high, in which persons are employed above the second story.

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect from its passage.

Approved January 29, 1915.

No. 195.

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 5418 OF THE PUBLIC STATUTES, RELATING TO CONDEMNATION OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS.

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Section 1. Section 5418 of the Public Statutes is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

Sec. 5418. Said board may examine or cause to be examined a school building or an outhouse and condemn the same as unfit for occupation or use, and the building or outhouse so condemned by written notice served upon the chairman of the board of school directors or the person having such school in charge shall not be occupied or used until the same is repaired and the sanitary condition approved by the state board of health; provided that said board shall not issue any order, the compliance with which would necessitate the expenditure by a town in any one year for repairing or erecting school buildings of a sum in excess of twenty per cent of the grand list of the town. A person who violates a provision of this section shall be fined not more than fifty dollars nor less than five dollars.

Approved March 19, 1915.

No. 265.

AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE MONEY TO THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT OF THE STATE BOYS' AND GIRLS' AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL EXPOSITION.

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Section 1. The sum of five hundred dollars for the year 1915, and the sum of five hundred dollars for the year 1916 is hereby appropriated to the committee of management of the State Boys' and Girls' Agricultural and Industrial Exposition, a corporation organized under the laws of this state, to be used in furthering the expositions to be held in this state in the years 1915 and 1916, said expositions to be held solely for the purpose of encouraging various forms of vocational training among the boys and girls throughout this state.

Sec. 2. The auditor of accounts is hereby directed to draw an order for five hundred dollars in each of the above named years, payable to the treasurer of said committee of management upon the certificate of said treasurer that a like or greater sum

has been raised by said committee of management in each of said years for said purpose, and that said exposition has actually been held in Vermont in each of said years respectively.

Sec. 3. This act shall take effect from its passage.

Approved March 31, 1915.

No. 266.

AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE A SUM OF MONEY FOR THE NORMAL SCHOOL AT CASTLETON.

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Section 1. The auditor of accounts is directed to draw his order in favor of the treasurer of the board of education for the sum of seventeen hundred and forty-five dollars and eighty-five cents to be expended in liquidating a deficit already incurred in the purchase of furniture and the making of repairs at the normal school at Castleton.

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect from its passage.

Approved February 18, 1915.

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